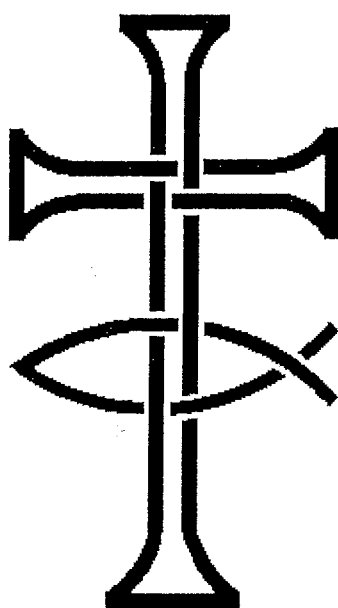


**Wylde Green United Reformed Church Charity
Report of the Trustees and Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2017**



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Wylde Green United Reformed Church Annual Report

Trustees Report

Reference and Administrative Details:

Wylde Green United Reformed Church is situated within the West Midlands Synod of the United Reformed Church.

Wylde Green URC is a charity registered with the Charity Commission (No. 1136135).

The correspondence address (Church Secretary in 2017) is: Miss Pat Lister, 3 Heathlands Crescent, Sutton Coldfield, B73 5EP.

Structure, Governance and Management

Constitution

The Church is a constituent part of the United Reformed Church which was formed by Act of Parliament in 1972, as amended in 1981 and 2000. The Governing document of the Wylde Green United Reformed Church Charity was adopted by the Church, at a Church Meeting on 15th July 2009 and registration with the Charity Commission was formally confirmed on 1st June 2010. The pastoral and financial oversight of the congregation is achieved through the local councils of the Church and the wider representative councils. These being the elected Elders that formally meet monthly both as Elders of the Church and as Trustees of the Charity and as part of the collective membership at the Church Meeting, consisting of all persons who have been formally admitted to membership of the Church and whose names are on the membership roll. The wider representative councils are the West Midlands Synod to which the Church is affiliated and the General Assembly of the United Reformed Church.

Governance

The Elders meet monthly both as Elders and where financial matters are concerned, as Trustees of the Church and are the principal management committee of the Church. The Elders Meeting consists of the Minister and of Elders elected by the collective church membership at Church Meeting. The Treasurer (formally known as the Convenor of the Finance Committee) and the Convenor of the Fabric Committee, if not elected Elders, can attend the Elders Meeting as ex-officio members. Elders serve for three years and are then eligible for re-election for a further three years, after which they must stand down for at least a year. The Financial management of the Church is regulated through the Financial Standing Instructions (or the Financial Constitution), which was adopted by the Church Meeting in 2000 and amended in 2003 and further revised and approved at the Church Meeting in November 2011. The detailed financial management is delegated to the Finance Committee, working within this Constitution. The membership of the Finance Committee is made up of officers with particular responsibilities and representatives of the Trustees and the Church Membership. Due to the size of the charity; the Trustees consider that an audit is not required for the 2017 year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that accordingly only an Independent Examination is needed.

The Church Meeting is held six times a year, one of which is an AGM. The Church Meeting endorses (or not) the decisions of the Trustees on Financial matters and regulates and approves (or not) all other matters associated with the running of the Church. Church Meetings can be attended by anyone connected with the Church, but voting is restricted to members of the Church.

During 2016 the Minister of the Church Reverend Susan McCoan (who was both ordained and inducted to Wylde Green URC on 10th July 2010) responded to a calling from a pastorate in London; and as such, since July of 2016 the Church has been without a Minister. The Eldership has continued to work hard during this period of interregnum and has completed the process to formally be declared vacant awaiting expressions of interest from Ministers.

Wylde Green United Reformed Church Annual Report

The eldership is committed to the objectives it set as part of the LMMR process under the guidance of Susan McCoan; and works tirelessly to maintain focus in order to achieve these objectives. However, the eldership sees the leadership of a minister an integral part in truly realising these objectives.

Table of Elders

The Trustees of the Church during 2017 were:

Name	Date Elected	Date Stood Down	Office Held
Wilma Frew	November 2011	December 2017	
Joan Cox	November 2016		
Alastair Frew	November 2016		
Jason Gardner	November 2013		
Steve Goring	November 2013		
Anne Horton	November 2016		
Sue Jones	November 2016		
Samara Knight	November 2014		
Pat Lister	November 2013		Church Secretary
Adrian Miles	November 2013		
Mark Miles	November 2012		
Susan Miles	November 2016		
Elaine Siggers	November 2014		
Alex Wheadon	November 2015		

Aims and Objectives

The Church operates within the Scheme of Union of the United Reformed Church and the Governing Document approved by the membership at Church Meeting.

The objectives of the church can be summarised as 'the advancement of religion' but specifically quantified by the following:

- To provide regular public worship for all
- To promote the Christian faith
- To teach the faith to all ages
- To provide training, nurture and activities for children and young people
- To serve the community
- To give pastoral care and support to members and others in need, particularly those in sickness, distress or poverty
- To provide premises and resources for community groups and activities.

The Church's Mission Statement is:

'Making the love of Jesus a reality in the community seven days a week. Reaching out, welcoming in'

Activities and Performance

The number of church members as at 31st December 2017 was: 142

The number of Junior Church children and young people at the same date was: 27

The average weekly attendance for morning services is approximately 85 and evening services averaging 22.

During 2017 2 of our Members died. We welcomed 0 people into church membership and conducted 3 infant baptisms and 1 blessing.

Wylde Green United Reformed Church Annual Report

During the year, the Church continued with its forward-thinking plan under the close monitoring of the 'Forward Planning Group' which was born out of the LMMR consultation. The group is responsible for the careful monitoring of key Church and fellowship activities; as a direct result of this the Church has a focal point of idea generation, activity planning and co-ordination. Many of the activities which the Church values are now a foundation to Church life such as the 'Season of Invitation' or 'Culture of Invitation', which is continually promoted and embraced; and as a result during the course of the year there have been new, regular people attending Church. The Church hosted a Harvest lunch which catered for approximately 100 people as well as introducing lunches for the elderly that can no longer commit to attending church regular. The church also organised a Christmas Fair that was open to the community and witnessed many new people from the community join in the activities and the experience of the day. All these events have provided memorable fellowship opportunities for everyone involved or visiting the church.

Our commitment to providing youth activities such as the Good Friday 'Fun Day' have been combined with the activities of Junior Church which has a group of twelve volunteers that support the varying age groups and activities. The Junior Church is run and co-ordinated by Alastair Frew. Junior Church is active on Sundays and runs three departments catering for babies through to 17-year olds. There is an active Toddler Group which meets three mornings a week for children up to the age of 2½, and a Play Group that meets Wednesday to Friday in the mornings during term time for children from the age of 2½ + to school age. There is a group of young people aged 11+ that frequent the church on an irregular basis making it hard for the Junior Church to establish a regular youth group, which the church would very much like to do. To this end the Junior church volunteers are actively talking to this group of young people to try and work out an ideal time to meet.

The Church also has 7 uniformed organisations:

A Guide Unit, two Brownie packs, one Rainbow Unit, a Scout Troop, a Cub Scout pack and a Beaver Colony.

Adult Groups and activities which are part of the Church include:

A Badminton club, the Boldmere Recorded Music Society, a book group, the Britwell Circle, the Church Choir, the Friday Friendship Club, Pop-in Coffee, Prayer Groups, a Walking Group, two regular and two occasional House Groups that provide fellowship and bible study and an annual Lent course. A variety of other organisations not directly connected with the Church, use the Church premises each week and pay a rental for their use of the facilities.

The Church hosts a Traidcraft shop that is open on Friday and Saturday mornings and after the morning and evening services on Sunday. The Traidcraft shop also supplies similar operations in other churches in the district.

The Church plays an active part in the Churches Together organisation in Boldmere, Banners Gate and Wylde Green and has a representative who keeps in touch with the Bible Society and URC Retreat facilities. The Church is represented at West Midlands Synod meetings and participates in Christian Aid and Leprosy Mission collections.

Church Premises

The condition of the Church, the Manse and other associated buildings is of constant concern and a large part of our annual expenditure budget is devoted to maintenance and upkeep of the church fabric and its associated buildings and facilities.

Wylde Green United Reformed Church Annual Report

During the course of 2017 the church has experienced a number of regular maintenance and a few significant changes which have been aimed at safeguarding the church and also making the experience of visiting and taking part in church services and activities more comfortable.

Routine repairs and maintenance to the fabric of the church buildings remain a key focus and financial commitment to the church and during 2017 we continued our policy to invest in the fabric of our church for the benefit of those using the facilities.

During 2017 there was continued investment into windows and doors, replacing old wooden fixtures with uPVC replacements in order to maintain the security and safety of the church for its users; as well as continually improving the accessibility of the church facilities. We also committed further investment into safety features by installing a CCTV system to monitor access points into the church buildings as well as having our main hall completely redecorated and new curtains fitted; additional upgrades the church audio system have enhanced the inclusiveness and enjoyment for all regular and occasional church visitors. Such investments have been made possible through the continued regular giving of the church congregation and in part by the considerable legacy funds that the church has been bequeathed. It is the duty of the Eldership to ensure the responsible investment of these funds and as such the Elders feel it appropriate to meet with the Fabric and Finance Committees in order to discuss and plan how these funds should be invested to support the objectives of the church.

Risk Assessment

There are two principal risks that face the Charity on an on-going basis:

- The reliability of 'Congregational Giving' as its major income
- A fabric 'disaster'

The congregation and the membership have supported requests to bolster 'Congregational Giving', in the past. However, the appeal in 2016 had fallen short of the expected budget. Although this was the case the Trustees felt that an appeal was needed to support the congregation giving during 2017. The Trustees deemed it necessary therefore to request a 2.5% increase. However, the response again has been disappointing with the total received being 93% of the projected budget. In previous years this may have been supplemented by other receipts or lettings however this has not been the case during 2017 with a deficit to budget of £2,000.

The Church has a group whose particular responsibilities are being aware of and implementing the Health and Safety requirements on the premises; as part of this we are fully aware of the varying needs of our members and visitors and print the details of the provisions we have for those with disabilities or special needs on the back cover of the Church Handbook.

We are constantly trying to improve our General Reserves by urging consistent giving commitments and by reviewing and monitoring our expenditure. In the Finance Committee, we formally review our performance against budget each month and in the last quarter of the year make a forecast of our eventual financial position, which then provides the basis for the next year's budget.

Prepared on behalf of the Trustees by Jason Gardner

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

P. M. Lister

Church Secretary

Anne M. Horton

Trustee

Date: 16th May 2018

Wylde Green United Reformed Church Annual Report

Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2017

Finance Committee Convenor's Report

I am pleased to present the Accounts for the year that ended on 31st December 2017.

The Budget for 2017 was set in the context of the 2016 Congregational Giving Appeal of 2% not being realised at all, but total Receipts for that year finishing modestly in excess of Budget due to higher Lettings to a significant new user, a successful Flower Festival and higher Donations from regular contributors. 2016 Expenditure was less than Budgeted as the acceptance of a Call to another URC Church by the Revd. Sue McCoan had not been anticipated, which led to Manse council tax & running costs and Minsters' allowances being under-spent in the second half of that year, following her departure in July 2016. The Trustees, in the light of the reported concerns of Synod regarding serious shortfalls in Ministry & Mission contributions from fellow churches made an additional donation of these savings to Synod in December 2016 to help address this position.

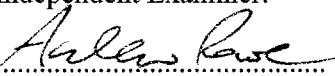
The 2017 Budget called for a Congregational Giving Appeal of 2.5%, which again was not achieved, although in the early part of the year it appeared to have sufficient support, but the pace of Giving declined in line with the size of Congregations during the vacancy, finishing nearly £4,500 (6.5%) short of Budget. Fortunately nearly three-quarters of this shortfall was recovered in other Receipts, with Donations & the Christmas Fayre exceeding Budget. This however still made the delivery of a break-even position for the year unviable, despite the correct assumption that a new Minister would not join us until 2018. In the event, overall expenditure was nearly £1,000 more than Budgeted, giving an overall deficit against the 2017 Budget of close to £2,000.

Despite this disappointing outcome, our solvency (having previously been boosted to levels not attained for very many years by the retention of a significant portion of the Laycock Legacy funds in 2015) was further substantially strengthened by receipt of three unconditional Legacies of over £108,000 in total. The Trustees, in conjunction with the Congregation and their representatives, are currently considering to what purposes these may be applied, in the context of the hoped-for arrival of a new Minister and fresh challenges in Church life.

To this end, the Trustees decided to establish a 'Manse & Minister Fund' during the year to provide for the refurbishment of the Manse and our share of the relocation expenses on the appointment of a new Minister. This is funded from the net proceeds of letting the vacant Manse and stands at an agreed £9,000, with the surplus of nearly £6,000 this year being applied to Fabric Projects on Church buildings. This year these have cost more than £13,000, with work on the Paint Store & the Britwell Hall being completed, together with the installation of a CCTV system to increase security and the replacement of the large rear entrance door with one made of modern uPVC materials. As previously the continued funding of these Fabric Projects from General Funds and this source (as long as we are sufficiently solvent) is considered essential in reducing the likelihood of future fabric 'disasters', so addressing the risk of disruption to the finances and life of the Church posed by such events. These measures can also have a continued impact on cost control, as for instance Gas consumption has continued to fall, due to the boiler replacement & improved insulation completed during the last few years.

After the disappointment of 2017, the Trustees agreed to seek a 3% increase in Congregational Giving for 2018, to limit the Budgeted deficit for the year to close to £4,500, on the assumption that a Minister would be joining in July 2018. Currently the pace of Giving is unsupportive of this request, but the likelihood of an appointment being made in 2018 is now remote. Accordingly, it would seem appropriate that the Trustees should revise the 2018 Budget to reflect these changed circumstances but it is clear that without a Minister, the Church is going to be drawing on its' financial reserves to continue to make the full annual contributions requested by Synod.

As I have now retired as Finance Committee Convenor after serving in this capacity for twelve of the last fifteen years, I wish to express my particular thanks to the Finance Committee for all their work and support during those years, which required much of their personal time and commitment 'behind the scenes' and also to Mrs. Sue Harrison for continuing in the role of our Independent Examiner.

Presented by: 

Date: 16th May 2018

Andrew Rowe Finance Committee Convenor (2012 to 2017)

Wylde Green United Reformed Church Annual Report

Wylde Green United Reformed Church Charity Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2017

Independent Examiner's report to the members of Wylde Green URC

I report on the accounts of Wylde Green United Reformed Church Charity for the year ended 31 December 2017, which are set out on pages 8 to 15.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

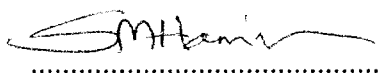
My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed on 16th May 2018 by:


.....

Sue Harrison
Independent Examiner

Wylde Green United Reformed Church Annual Report

Wylde Green United Reformed Church Charity

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2017

		General Funds	Legacy Fund	People & Outreach Funds	Manse & Minister Fund	Total Funds	Total Funds
						2017	2016
	Notes	£	£	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources							
Congregational giving		64,037	-	-	-	64,037	68,174
Tax recovered		14,896	-	-	-	14,896	15,211
Lettings		23,942	-	-	-	23,942	24,710
Donations and grants	2	6,297	-	775	-	7,072	10,200
Investment income		179	-	-	-	179	227
Other income		3,649	-	-	-	3,649	1,407
Legacies		-	108,640	-	-	108,640	0
Manse Rental		-	-	-	14,045	14,045	5,685
Total incoming resources		<u>113,000</u>	<u>108,640</u>	<u>775</u>	<u>14,045</u>	<u>236,460</u>	<u>125,614</u>
Resources expended							
URC disbursements		62,316	-	-	-	62,316	60,750
Salaries, fees & allowances	3	19,950	-	-	-	19,950	20,377
Manse expenses	4	277	-	-	2,085	2,362	4,808
Church expenses	5	12,265	-	-	-	12,265	12,045
Fabric committee	6	14,774	-	-	5,887	20,661	16,556
General expenses		2,628	-	-	-	2,628	3,100
Subscriptions and donations	7	1,227	-	-	-	1,227	2,775
Church life	8	2,060	1,000	-	-	3,060	1,514
Total resources expended		<u>115,497</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,972</u>	<u>124,469</u>	<u>121,925</u>
Net (outgoing) / incoming resources		(2,497)	107,640	775	6,073	111,991	3,689
Fund balances at 1 January		41,430	-	13,232	2,927	57,589	53,900
Fund balances at 31 December		<u>38,933</u>	<u>107,640</u>	<u>14,007</u>	<u>9,000</u>	<u>169,580</u>	<u>57,589</u>

The notes on pages 10 to 15 form part of these accounts.

Wylde Green United Reformed Church Annual Report

Wylde Green United Reformed Church Charity Balance sheet as at 31 December 2017

		Total funds	Total funds
		2017	2016
	Notes	£	£
Fixed assets			
Investments	10	-	-
Current assets			
Debtors	11	2,628	1,805
Cash on deposit	12	110,425	50,287
Cash at bank		62,022	9,706
		<u>175,075</u>	<u>61,798</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	5,495	4,209
Net current assets		<u>169,580</u>	<u>57,589</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year		-	-
Net total assets		<u><u>169,580</u></u>	<u><u>57,589</u></u>
Reserves			
General Funds		38,933	41,430
Legacy Fund	9	107,640	-
People & Outreach Funds		14,007	13,232
Manse & Minister Fund		9,000	2,927
Total reserves		<u><u>169,580</u></u>	<u><u>57,589</u></u>

The notes on pages 10 to 15 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the Trustees on 16th May 2018 and authorised to be signed on their behalf by:

P. M. Lister

Trustee

Anne M. Horton

Trustee

Wylde Green United Reformed Church Charity Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2017

1 Accounting Policies

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting by Charities' issued by the Charity Commissioners and with applicable accounting standards in the United Kingdom.

The accounts have been prepared on the basis of accruals accounting. Therefore income is matched with associated expenditure. In summary, accruals accounting requires that:

- income is recognised at the point when it is due to the charity, regardless of whether any cash associated with the transaction has actually been received and
- expenditure is recognised at the point when the relevant goods and services are supplied, regardless of whether or not an invoice has been received or payment has actually been made.

A summary follows of the more important accounting policies, which have been applied consistently.

Tangible fixed assets

Property associated with the charity is vested in URC (W.Midlands) Trust Ltd, the Synod trust body, and cannot be disposed of without the consent of the Synod Finance Committee. This property is therefore considered inalienable and no useful purpose would be gained by the inclusion of an amount in the accounts for land and buildings.

Equipment, furniture and fittings purchased by the charity are treated as outgoing resources in the year of purchase and therefore no amount is shown in the balance sheet for such items.

Fixed asset investments

Investments in government stocks and similar items which are intended to be held for more than one year are treated as fixed assets. The initial cost of investments is their purchase cost. Investments are valued at market value at the balance sheet date. Changes in value during the year are reported in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Income from investments is included, together with any recoverable tax element, as an incoming resource to the general fund on an accruals basis.

Legacies

Legacies are treated as income in the year in which they are received. Where a donor has placed conditions on the use of a legacy it is set apart from the general funds of the charity and used only for the specific purpose intended. Legacies over £500 received without conditions should be designated to particular reserves in accordance with the charity's Standing Financial Instructions and reserves policy.

Income Tax recovered

Receipts in respect of Tax claims for Gift Aid donations are treated as relating to the calendar year in which the tax year ends i.e. those relating to the tax year ended 5th April 2017 are included as income in 2017. Similarly, with regard to claims under the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme these are treated as income quarterly in arrears i.e. tax recoverable in this respect up to 30th September 2017, is included as income in 2017.

Wylde Green United Reformed Church Annual Report

Donations passing through the charity

The charity bank account is used as a means of collecting money and then passing it on to other organisations at various times during the year. Such donations are treated as neither income nor expenditure of the charity on the grounds of immateriality. The amounts are reported in Note 14 to the accounts.

Reserves

The charity has no endowment or restricted funds at present. Funds apart from the charity's general fund are established by the Trustees and Reserves may be designated to those funds in accordance with the charity's current reserves policy.

2 Donations and grants

	2017	2016
	£	£
General Funds		
One-off donations from members	0	950
Mothers & Toddlers Group	2,400	2,700
Visual system donations	737	1,770
Britwell Circle	150	150
Legacy: Monica Green	500	0
Friday Friendship	100	0
Boldmere Recorded Music Society	80	60
Music Events	810	1,003
Traidcraft	1,000	2,000
Badminton	230	210
Baptism, wedding & funeral donations	200	501
Fees donated	30	386
Uniformed Organisations	60	40
Others	0	25
Others in 2016	0	30
	<u>6,297</u>	<u>9,825</u>
People & Outreach Fund		
Congregational donations	375	375
West Midlands Synod grant	400	0
	<u>775</u>	<u>375</u>
Total	<u>7,072</u>	<u>10,200</u>

Wylde Green United Reformed Church Annual Report

3 Salaries, fees & allowances

	2017	2016
	£	£
Wages and salaries		
Minister's car and book allowances	0	873
Pulpit & Organist supply	8	230
Caretakers, cleaners and others	19,942	19,274
Training and support	0	0
Employers' NIC and Pension provision	0	0
	<u>19,950</u>	<u>20,377</u>

4 Manse expenses

	2017	2016
	£	£
Council tax	0	1,076
Insurance and water	277	319
Telephone and internet	0	346
Sundry repairs and renewals	0	309
	<u>277</u>	<u>2,050</u>
Rental Costs (Manse fund)	<u>2,085</u>	<u>2,758</u>
	<u>2,362</u>	<u>4,808</u>

5 Church expenses

	2017	2016
	£	£
Gas	4,965	5,279
Insurance	4,211	4,050
Electricity	2,172	1,941
Water	274	249
Rates	194	209
Sundry	449	317
	<u>12,265</u>	<u>12,045</u>

Wylde Green United Reformed Church Annual Report

6 Fabric Committee

	2017	2016
	£	£
Church, halls and manse	6,690	5,260
Fabric Projects (see Note 10)	13,286	10,446
Other	685	850
	<u>20,661</u>	<u>16,556</u>

7 Subscriptions & donations made

	2017	2016
	£	£
West Midlands Synod	0	1,400
DEC: Myanmar Appeal (Note 14)	16	0
DEC: East Africa Appeal (Note 14)	100	0
Levenson Foundation	8	7
Memorial to Christmas Float constructor	40	0
URC Silence & Retreats network	20	20
Christmas Appeals (Note 14)	470	310
CTBBGWG (subscription)	90	90
Banners Gate Counselling Centre	0	220
URC Peace Fellowship	30	30
Cord: Toilet Twinning	300	300
Red Cross: Grenfell Tower Appeal (Note 14)	101	0
Action Aid: Sierra Leone Appeal (Note 14)	52	0
Others made in 2016	0	398
	<u>1,227</u>	<u>2,775</u>

8 Church life

	2017	2016
	£	£
Junior Church	474	140
Flower fund & 2016 Festival	300	650
LMMR & Events	417	86
Cradle Roll	158	0
Sundry	711	638
	<u>2,060</u>	<u>1,514</u>
Legacy allocation: 2018 Flower Festival	1,000	0
	<u>3,060</u>	<u>1,514</u>

Wylde Green United Reformed Church Annual Report

9 Legacy Fund

	2017 £	2016 £
Total brought-forward	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Received from Executors	108,640	0
Allocations	<u>(1,000)</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>107,640</u>	<u>0</u>
Total carried-forward	<u>107,640</u>	<u>0</u>

The Legacy Fund was credited with the proceeds received from the estates of the late Mrs. Edith Hannan (£1,000), Miss Dorothy Holder (£20,000) and Mrs. Sue McKnight (£87,640), these legacies were unconditional. During the year the Trustees allocated £1,000 towards the cost of holding a Flower Festival in 2018. The Legacy Fund is used to segregate these funds from the General Funds of the Charity, pending allocation by the Trustees.

10 Fixed assets

The church currently has no fixed asset investments, holding all its reserves as cash in hand, at bank or cash deposits of less than one year to maturity.

Property associated with the church is vested in URC (W. Midlands) Trust Ltd, the Synod trust body. For information, the current (2018) valuations for insurance purposes are shown below:-

Britwell Road, Sutton Coldfield, Church premises & all associated assets	£7,432,382
Manse at 45 Beacon Road, Sutton Coldfield	£373,104

During the period 1999 to 2004 inclusive the church incurred major expenditure on improvements and repairs to its buildings as part of the Centenary & Millennium projects, totalling £290,357, including new sanctuary heating and access-for-all alterations to the church vestibule, together with extending and refurbishing Britwell Hall and its rooms, together with repairing and improving the Organ. Subsequently, smaller specific Fabric projects have been completed, as follows:-

£8,080 in 2005 for improvements to the Highbridge Hall kitchen

£4,933 was spent during 2004 & 2005 improving the fencing of the Church field

£4,528 in 2006 for new Church lighting, £6,347 in 2007 for improvements to the fabric of Room 1

£5,250 in 2008 for Parapet and roof improvements

£3,110 (£2,110 after Traidcraft donation) in 2008 for alterations to the Vestry, toilet & store

£6,683 (£4,183 after a donation from the Joseph Scott Trust) for refurbishment of the corridor toilets

£12,790 (£8,806 after West Midlands Synod grant) for Manse renovation prior to Minister appointment

£2,779 (£1,484 after a donation & carbon offset grant) for Room 1 double-glazed replacement windows

£37,684 (£2,194 after a Grant of £35,490 from Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust) for a replacement Boiler and installation of further fuel-efficient double-glazing and insulation in 2013

£2,170 for renovation and new seating in the Church Lounge in 2014

£6,356 (£2,168 after donations) for enhancements to the Church audio capability from 2013 to 2016

£11,556 for replacement uPVC Doors & Windows in 2015, 2016 & 2017

£3,600 (£nil after a Legacy allocation) for replacement Cladding & Soffits in the Halls in 2015

£14,100 for the installation of Fire Alarm and Gas safety systems during 2015 & 2016

£11,694 (£nil after donations & a £6,000 Legacy allocation) for the Visual system from 2015 to 2017

£2,000 for new Pew Runners in the Church (£nil after a Legacy allocation)

£4,204 to renovate and redecorate the Choir Vestry & Paint Store in 2016 & 2017

£6,560 for Britwell Hall renovations & £1,684 for CCTV Security in 2017

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11 Debtors

	2017 £	2016 £
Lettings	1,591	1,009
Prepayments	381	370
Other debtors	656	426
	2,628	1,805

12 Investments

The charity holds a Charities' Deposit Account with CCLA Investment Management Limited as its principal investment. The amount deposited in this account was £85,425 at the year-end (2016: £50,287). During the year a Corporate Savings account was also opened with the Churches' Mutual Credit Union which was £25,000 in credit at the end of the year.

13 Creditors

	2017 £	2016 £
Commitment for Life	487	487
Utilities	1,067	925
Other creditors & accruals	2,312	2,739
Amounts held for Church Organisations:		
Choir gown fund	58	58
Flower Fund (ex. Legacy)	1,000	0
Visual Project	571	0
	5,495	4,209

14 Donations passing through church funds

	2017 £
Commitment for Life	3,887
Action Aid: Sierra Leone Appeal (Note 7)	73
Red Cross: Grenfell Tower (Note 7)	174
Christmas Appeals (Note 7)	
- Bible Society	290
- Mercy Ships	290
- St Basil's	160
DEC: Myanmar (Note 7)	84
DEC: East Africa (Note 7)	350

